

## PASSIVE VOICE ( BE + V3 )

(For simpler version, check my previous worksheet: [myWorksheets/Passive Voice Basit Konu Anlatımı Örneklerle.pdf](#) at [main · mr-Ucar/myWorksheets · GitHub](#))

The passive voice of a verb nearly always consists of a form of the helping verb **be + V3** :

**Example:** was told, are examined, has been broken.

S      V

**Active:** Bill **threw** the ball to his son

S                  V

**Passive:** The ball **was thrown** by Bill to his son.

Note from Ucar:

{ S stands for Subject and V stands for Verb. }



Jun

Can you give me some examples of the active and passive?

Yes, of course. Here's a passive sentence:

*My room is being cleaned.*

'My room' is the main focus of the sentence. The active form would be 'The cleaners are cleaning my room'. This sounds strange because it is obvious that, if you are in a hotel, cleaners would clean your room. So we sometimes use the passive to avoid stating the obvious.



Sophie



OK, that makes sense. Are there any other uses?

We also use the passive when we don't know who did something, or when it isn't important.

*It's the biggest outdoor elevator in the world, so I've been informed.*

It doesn't matter who told me.

*I think loads of films have been made there.*

The important thing is the films, not the film-makers.



Can you use a passive and also say who did the action?

Yes.

*Avatar was made by James Cameron.*



Is the passive formal?

No, not necessarily. It can be formal or neutral or informal.

*I hope to find everything clean and tidy ... you've been warned!*

But we often avoid the passive in very informal spoken language, for example, by using *they*.

*They based the scenery in Avatar on the landscape here.*

We don't know exactly who *they* are, but we can guess that it's the people who made the film.



I think I've heard people use *you* a lot too when they don't refer to anyone in particular.

Yes, very good! That's another way of sounding more informal. *You* is a bit different; it means 'people in general'.

*Parcels can be collected from the Post Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (more formal)*

*You can collect parcels between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (less formal)*



One last question, what about the passive with *get*? Is that informal too?

Yes, when we're speaking informally we also often use *get* rather than the verb *be*.

*He was sacked from his job. = He got sacked from his job.*

But be careful, not all verbs can be used in the passive with *get* – only verbs for talking about an action or a change.

*She was knocked off her bike by a bus. = She got knocked off her bike by a bus.*

*Charlie Chaplin was loved by millions. Charlie Chaplin got loved by millions.*



Phew, OK. I think my brain has been fried by all this!

**Note to my students - from Ucar:** **To conclude**, we use the passive, rather than the active, to show that we are more interested in a certain part of the sentence. The passive is usually formed by the verb to be + past participle.

### More Examples of Passive Voice:

She promised him a book.

He **was promised a book.** .....

They will take her to hospital tomorrow.

She **will be taken to hospital tomorrow.** .....

( **Passive Voice in Future Tense**)

**Active Sentence:** **Mom** **read** **the novel** in one day.

( V1: read- **V2: read** – V3: read )

**Passive Sentence:** **The novel** **was read** **by Mom** in one day.

( Here the verb is V3.)

- The telephone **WAS invented by** Alexander Graham Bell
- The little boys **are TAKEN** to school by their parents every day.
- A blonde girl **WAS seen** in the police station yesterday.
- Delicious soup **IS served** in this restaurant every morning.
- This project **WAS made** by Melinda last term.
- Nice books **WERE written** by this author last year.

**Example Sentences in other forms of Passive Voice:**

You cannot expect children to understand these problems.

Children **cannot be expected to understand these problems.** .....

No-one has climbed this mountain before.

This mountain **has not been climbed before.** .....

He disappeared and no-one has seen him again.

He disappeared and **has not been seen again.** .....

I was told the latest news by a friend this morning.

A friend **told me the latest news this morning.** .....

Have you ever been called a fool before?

Has **anyone ever called you a fool? / anyone called you a fool before?** .....

She was recommended a new doctor by her friend.

Her friend **recommended her a new doctor.** .....

Were you offered the job I told you about?

Did **anyone offer you the job I told you about?** .....

Were you given enough sugar?

Did **they give you enough sugar?** .....

People will show the visitor the new buildings.

The visitor **will be shown the new buildings.** .....

Someone will tell you what time the train leaves.

You **will be told what time the train leaves.** .....

Someone ordered the prisoners to stand up.

The prisoners **were ordered to stand up.** .....

I want someone to answer the phone call.

I want **the phone call to be answered.** .....

## WHEN TO USE PASSIVE ?:

- **Passive voice is appropriate when we don't know who performed an action.**

**Passive:** Tony was injured in a hit and run accident. (We don't know who hit Tony.)

- **It's also appropriate when we want to emphasize the deed rather than the doer.**

**Passive:** Lisa was saved from serious injury by her seat belt.

### ***Let's examine some Passive Voice -Example- Exercises:***

**Passive with verbs + preposition. Change these sentences into the passive.**

They will send for you when the boss arrives.

You will be sent for when the boss arrives. ....

He put off the meeting.

The meeting was put off. ....

They picked the students up from the school.

The students were picked up from the school. ....

Poor John! A drunk driver ran him over.

Poor John! He was run over by a drunk driver. ....

We must go into this matter.

This matter must be gone into. ....

Look how well they have brought up those children.

Look how well those children have been brought up. ....

Be careful what you say, as they will take down all your words.

Be careful what you say, as all your words will be taken down. ....

**Interrogative form. Put these questions into the passive.**

Is somebody picking you up tonight?

Are you being picked up tonight? .....

Did they give up the search after three hours?

Was the search given up after three hours? .....

Did anyone send you the photograph which they promised you?

Were you sent the photograph which you were promised? .....

Can we solve the problem?

Can the problem be solved? .....

Are you going to tell her the whole truth?

Is she going to be told the whole truth? .....

Did anyone ask you any questions?

Were you asked any questions? .....

**Passive with reporting verbs. Put the following sentences into the passive.**

People claim the Mona Lisa is the world's most famous painting.

The Mona Lisa is claimed to be the world's most famous painting. ....

Experts believe it was a portrait of a nobleman.

It is believed it was a portrait of a nobleman. ....

They say her smile hides a secret.

Her smile is said to hide a secret. ....

Many believe it is Leonardo's masterpiece.

It is believed to be Leonardo's masterpiece. ....

Scientists know he was a wonderful engineer too.

He is known to have been a wonderful engineer too. ....

Historians think he was unhappy in old age.

He is thought to have been unhappy in old age. ....

People think the fire started at about 8 o'clock.

The fire is thought to have started at about 8 o'clock. ....

They say experts are studying objects from a Spanish ship.

Experts are said to be studying objects from a Spanish ship. ....

They believe the ship was carrying gold bars.

The ship is believed to have been carrying gold bars. ....

**Rewrite the sentences in a different way.**

You can only see these particles through a microscope.

These particles **can only be seen through a microscope**.

People are using computers in all kinds of work.

Computers **are being used in all kinds of work**.

You have to keep dangerous chemicals in a safe place.

Dangerous **chemicals have to be kept in a safe place**.

You should have left the laboratory unlocked.

The laboratory **should have been left unlocked**.

We are unlikely to discover intelligent life on other planets.

Intelligent life **is unlikely to be discovered on other planets**.

Three million people watch TV plays every week.

TV plays **are watched by three million people every week**.

The critics gave the play good reviews.

The play **was given good reviews**.

A Greek architect is designing the new concert hall.

The new concert hall **is being designed by a Greek architect**.

Two million people have already seen the exhibition.

The exhibition **has already been seen by two million people**.

They are going to knock down the old theatre.

The old theatre **is going to be knocked down**.

They were still painting the walls when I left.

The walls **were still being painted when I left**.

An American invented the laser.

The laser **was invented by an American**.

They ought to mend the roof.

The roof **ought to be mended**.

Brazil produces large quantities of coffee.

Large quantities **of coffee are produced in Brazil**.

Rewrite these sentences with the new beginnings.

No one ever uses this room.

This room **is never used by anyone**.

This building is said to be 2,000 years old.

They **say this building is 2,000 years old**.

The teacher made the class stay in after school.

The class **was made to stay in after school**.

Was it a monkey that bit your finger?

Was your **finger bitten by a monkey**?

They were mending the road all last week.

All last week the road **was being mended**.

They say the castle is 500 years old.

The castle **is said to be 500 years old**.

The police ordered the crowds to move on.

The crowds **were ordered to move on**.

No one ever saw him again.

He **was never seen again**.

Rembrandt painted this picture.

This picture **is said to have been painted by Rembrandt**.

No one ever discovered the identity of the murdered man.

The identity of the murdered man **was never discovered**.

Someone is painting our house.

We **are having our house painted**.

The painters decorated our house last week.

We **had our house decorated last week**.

ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Present Progressive	He <b>is washing</b> the car.
Simple Present	He <b>washes</b> the car.
Simple Past	He <b>washed</b> the car.
Past Progressive	He <b>was washing</b> the car.
Present Perfect	He <b>has washed</b> the car.
Past Perfect	He <b>had washed</b> the car.
Simple Future	He <b>will wash</b> the car.
be going to	He <b>is going to wash</b> the car.
Future Perfect	He <b>will have washed</b> the car.
	The car <b>is being washed</b> by him.
	The car <b>is washed</b> by him.
	The car <b>was washed</b> by him.
	The car <b>was being washed</b> by him.
	The car <b>has been washed</b> by him.
	The car <b>had been washed</b> by him.
	The car <b>will be washed</b> by him.
	The car <b>is going to be washed</b> by him.
	The car <b>will have been washed</b> by him.

**Note to my students - from Ucar:** Now time to explain Passive Voice **in Turkish**, so some of you can understand better.

Active fiolin **nesnesi**, passive cümlede, **özne** durumuna geçer ve cümlein tense'ine uygun olarak **be + past participle** (fiolin üçüncü hali) kullanılır.

He is washing      the car.  
                          **object**

The car is **being washed** by him.  
**subject**

She cooked      the dinner.  
                          **object**

The dinner was **cooked** by her.  
**subject**

He makes      the sandwiches.  
                          **object**

The sandwiches are **made** by him.  
**subject**

**Active** : Jack **last** washed the car two days ago.  
**Passive** : The car was **last** washed by Jack two days ago.

Eğer cümlede başka yardımcı fiil varsa, bu zarfların yeri iki şekilde olabilir.

**Active** : Jack has **just** washed the car.  
**Passive** : The car has **just** been washed by Jack. (1. yardımcı fiilden sonra)  
                          The car has been **just** washed by Jack. ("be" fiilinden sonra)

**Active** : Jack had **already** washed the car.  
**Passive** : The car had **already** been washed by Jack.  
                          The car had been **already** washed by Jack.

**Active** : Jack will **probably** wash the car tomorrow.  
**Passive** : The car will **probably** be washed by Jack tomorrow.  
                          The car will be **probably** washed by Jack tomorrow.

"**Probably**"nin olumsuz cümledeki yerine dikkat ediniz.

**Active** : Jack **probably** won't wash the car tomorrow.  
                          Jack will **probably** not wash the car tomorrow.  
**Passive** : The car **probably** won't be washed by Jack tomorrow.  
                          The car will **probably** not be washed by Jack tomorrow.

c) "Carefully, beautifully, deeply" gibi durum bildiren zarflar (adverbs of manner) passive cümlede genellikle "be" fiili ile asıl fiil arasında yer alır.

**Active** : The horror film affected the children **badly**.  
**Passive** : The children were **badly** affected by the horror film.

**Active** : We placed the glassware **carefully** in the cupboard.  
**Passive** : The glassware was **carefully** placed in the cupboard.

Passive bir cümlede, eylemi yapan kişiyi "by phrase" ile belirtiriz.

**Active** : My mother made this pullover.  
**Passive** : This pullover was made **by my mother**.

**Active** : The President will announce the date of the meeting.  
**Passive** : The date of the meeting will be announced **by the President**.

Ancak, passive bir cümlede eylemi yapan kişi, eğer eylemin kimin tarafından yapıldığı önemliyse belirtilir. Eylemin kimin tarafından yapıldığı değil de, eylemin yapılmış olması önemliyse, "by phrase" kullanılmaz.

**Active** : Einstein developed the theory of relativity.  
**Passive** : The theory of relativity was developed **by Einstein**.

Yukarıdaki örnekte, "by Einstein" kullanarak, eylemi yapan kişiyi (*agent*) belirtmek zorundayız. Çünkü "by Einstein" ifadesini kullanmazsa, "İzafiyet teorisi üretildi." olur ki bu da anlamlı bir cümle olmaz. "İzafiyet teorisi Einstein tarafından üretildi." doğru ve tam bir cümledir.

**Active** : People mine coal in Zonguldak.  
**Passive** : Coal is mined in Zonguldak.

Bu örnekte, "by people" ifadesini kullanmaya gerek yoktur.

**Active** : The judge sentenced the murderer to life imprisonment.  
**Passive** : The murderer was sentenced to life imprisonment.

**Active** : Someone made this pullover in Germany.  
**Passive** : This pullover was made in Germany.

**Active** : They make paper from wood.  
**Passive** : Paper is made from wood.

Active bir soruyu, passive bir soruya dönüştürürken yine aynı kurallar geçerlidir.

**Active** : Is Jack washing the car now?  
**Passive** : Is the car being washed by Jack now?

**Active** : Does Jack wash the car every day?  
**Passive** : Is the car washed by Jack every day?

**Active** : When does Jack usually wash the car?  
**Passive** : When is the car usually washed?

"Who" ile sorulan sorularda dikkatli olunuz. Eğer "who", eylemi yapan kişiyi (*agent*) soruyorsa "Who ..... by?" soru biçimini kullanmanız gereklidir.

**Active** : Who discovered America?  
**Passive** : Who was America discovered **by?**  
(By whom was America discovered?)

**Active** : Who founded the Republic of Turkey?  
**Passive** : Who was the Republic of Turkey founded **by?**  
(By whom was the Republic of Turkey founded?)

"Who" nesne durumundaki kişiyi soruyorsa "by" kullanılmaz. Ancak, nesneye ait bir preposition varsa, o kullanılır.

- |                |   |  |
|----------------|---|--|
| <b>Active</b>  | : | Who will you invite to your party?   |
| <b>Passive</b> | : | <b>Who</b> will be invited to your party?  |
| <b>Active</b>  | : | Who did you see him <b>with</b> ?  |
| <b>Passive</b> | : | <b>Who</b> was he seen <b>with</b> ? ( <b>With whom</b> was he seen?)  |
| <b>Active</b>  | : | Who are you going to borrow money from?  |
| <b>Passive</b> | : | <b>Who</b> is money going to be borrowed <b>from</b> ?<br>( <b>From whom</b> is money going to be borrowed?) |
| <b>Active</b>  | : | Who did he lend his car <b>to</b> ?  |
| <b>Passive</b> | : | <b>Who</b> was his car lent <b>to</b> ? ( <b>To whom</b> was his car lent?)                                  |

"What" bir cümlede nesneyi sorar. Yani, "what" ile sorulmuş bir soruda, nesne yoktur. Bu durumda, cümleyi passive yaparken, özne durumuna getirebileceğimiz bir sözcük yok demektir. Böyle bir cümleyi şu şekilde passive yaparız:

- |                |   |   |
|----------------|---|---|
| <b>Active</b>  | : | What are they doing about the case?       |
| <b>Passive</b> | : | <b>What is being done</b> about the case? |
| <b>Active</b>  | : | What did they do about the case?          |
| <b>Passive</b> | : | <b>What was done</b> about the case?      |
| <b>Active</b>  | : | What have they done about the case?       |
| <b>Passive</b> | : | <b>What has been done</b> about the case? |

(NOTE: Passive cümlede "What"dan sonra gelen fiiller **tekildir**.)

Bazı fiiller iki nesne alır: "**indirect object**" ve "**direct object**". Bu nesnelerin cümle içindeki yerleri iki şekilde olabilir.

I gave      him    some money yesterday.  
              I.O.      D.O.

I gave      some money    to      him yesterday.  
              D.O.                  I.O.

I will buy      her    a book tomorrow.  
              I.O.      D.O.

I will buy      a book    for    her tomorrow.  
              D.O.      I.O.

Örneklerde gördüğünüz gibi, indirect object yani insan olan nesne fiilden hemen sonra geliyorsa, diğer nesneye geçerken bir preposition **kullanılmaz**. Eğer fiilden hemen sonra direct object geliyorsa, indirect object'e geçerken, fiiliin gerektirdiğine göre, "to" ya da "for" kullanılır.

Bu iki nesneli fiillerin passive biçimini de iki şekilde olur:

**Active**      : I gave    him    some money yesterday.  
              I.O.      D.O.

**Passive 1** : He was given some money yesterday.  
**Passive 2** : Some money was given to him yesterday.  
(Ona dün biraz para verildi.)

**Active** : I will buy her a book tomorrow.  
I.O. D.O.

**Passive 1** : She will be bought a book tomorrow.  
**Passive 2** : A book will be bought for her tomorrow.  
(Yanın ona bir kitap alınacak.)

Farklı şekillerde passive yapılabilmelerine karşın, bu cümlelerin anlamları aynıdır. Indirect object'in passive cümlede subject olması, daha yaygın olarak kullanılır.

## Passive Voice in Modals:

### modal + be + past participle

a) The letters	will	be	posted tomorrow.
b) Tomorrow's exam	can	be	postponed to next Monday.
c) You	may	be	allowed to leave early.
d) Children	should	be	warned against dangers.
e) Chocolate	ought not to	be	eaten too much.
f) Tomorrow's meeting	had better	be	cancelled.
g) She	had to	be	taken to hospital.
h) He	must	be	told the news.
i) We	were supposed to	be	informed about the change.

### modal + have been + past participle

j) She	shouldn't	have	been	told the bad news.
k) He	can't	have	been	seen with her.
l) This book	must	have	been	left here by a student.
m) You	ought to	have	been	allowed to go there.

## STATIVE PASSIVE

İngilizce'de fiillerin üçüncü halleri (*past participle*), bazı cümlelerde sıfat gibi işlev görür. Bu cümleler yapı olarak passive olmalarına karşın, kullanılan past participle, eylemin nasıl yapıldığını ya da kim tarafından yapıldığını ifade etmez. Yalnızca bir ismi tanımlar. Yani bir nesnenin ya da kişinin durumunu ifade eder. Bir ismi tanımladığı için de bu sözcükler sıfat görevindedir.

The window is **large**.  
The window is **white**.  
The window is **broken**.

İlk iki cümledeki "large" ve "white" sözcük türü olarak sıfattır. "Broken" ise "break" fiilinin üçüncü halidir; ancak o da, "large" ve "white" gibi "window" sözünü tanımlamıştır.

Bu tür sözcüklerin, cümlede passive eylem görevinde mi yoksa bir ismi tanımlayan sıfat görevinde mi olduğunu cümlenin akışından çıkarabiliriz.

Yesterday, the window of the classroom **was broken** by one of the students. (passive action)  
(Dün sınıfın camı, bir öğrenci tarafından **kırıldı**.)

When I entered the classroom yesterday, the window **was broken**. (stative passive)  
(Dün sınıfa girdiğimde, cam **kırıktı**.)

The door to the school **is** always **locked** by the caretaker after the classes are over. (passive action)  
(Dersler bittiğinden sonra, okulun kapısı müstahdem tarafından hep **kilitlenir**.)

We can't enter that room. The door **is locked**. (stative passive)  
(O odaya girememiz. Kapı **kilitli**.)

"Stative passive" bildiren fiiller çoğunlukla bir preposition ile birlikte kullanılırlar. \*

I'm **interested in** music, especially in folk music.  
She is **married to** an American.  
I'm **satisfied with** the progress you've made in English.  
When the teacher gave the exam results, Ann was **disappointed with** her score.

Bazı sıfatları "get" ile birlikte kullanarak, onları durum bildiren bir yapıdan eylem bildiren bir yapıya dönüştürebiliriz.

I couldn't wear my jeans this morning, because they **were** still **wet**.  
("Were wet" kotun o anki durumunu belirtiyor.)  
(Bu sabah kotumu giyemedim çünkü hala **ıslaklı**.)

When I stepped into a hole full of water yesterday, my jeans **got wet**. ("got wet" o anda olan bir olayı belirtiyor.)  
(Dün su dolu bir çukura basınca, kotum **ısladı**.)

"Get + past participle" da aynı şekilde kullanılır ve passive bir anlam taşır.

She didn't want to go out because she **was tired**.  
(Dışarı çıkmak istemedi çünkü **yorgundu**.)

Having worked for three hours without stopping, she **got tired**.  
(Ara vermeden üç saat çalışınca **yoruldu**.)

When she came home, she was very **annoyed**.  
(Eve geldiğinde çok **öfkeliydi**.)

She **got** very **annoyed** when she heard the news.  
(Haberin duyuncu çok **öfkelendi**.)

*Anyone, no one, anybody, nobody, anything ve nothing* gibi belgisiz zamirlerin bulunduğu active cümleyi passive yaparken, cümlenin olumsuz anlamını bozmamaya dikkat ediniz.

**Active** : Nobody **can repair** this broken vase. (Cümlede fil olumlu, ancak "nobody" cümleye olumsuz bir anlam veriyor.)

**Passive** : This broken vase **can't be repaired by anybody**. (Cümlede fil olumsuz olduğu zaman "nobody" yerine "anybody", "nothing" yerine "anything" kullanılır.)

**Active** : Nobody **has considered** the result like this.

**Passive** : The result **hasn't been considered** like this.

**Active** : You **can't do anything** about this case.

**Passive** : **Nothing can be done** about this case.

**Active** : They **don't allow anyone** to leave early.

**Passive** : **No one is allowed** to leave early.

## Practice

**Identify and change the passive voice verbs to active voice.**

(Notice which ones are easiest or hardest to change.)

1. The gun was shot by Tina.
2. The soup was prepared by the cook.
3. The empty house will be torn down by the city.

4. Tony has been shocked by that wire twice today.
5. Her new car was stolen right out of the garage.
6. The team was given a standing ovation.
7. The horse was being ridden by Julia when I drove up.
8. The moving van was loaded by four perspiring men.
9. A tray of glasses was dropped by the new waiter.
10. A bomb was found in the suitcase by airport security.
11. The widow's groceries are paid for by her neighbors.
12. His right leg was broken in two places.
13. Every garment is inspected by a supervisor.
14. My house was vandalized last night.
15. Jeff is often irritated by his neighbor's noisy parties.

## Answers

1. Tina shot the gun.
2. The cook prepared the soup.
3. The city will tear down the empty house.
4. That wire has shocked Tony twice today.
5. [Someone] stole her new car right out of the garage.
6. [Someone] gave the team a standing ovation.
7. Julie was riding her horse when I drove up.
8. Four perspiring men loaded the moving van.
9. The new waiter dropped a tray of glasses.
10. Airport security found a bomb in the suitcase.
11. The neighbors pay for the widow's groceries.
12. [He] broke his right leg in two places. (or maybe an attacker did it?)
13. A supervisor inspects every garment.
14. [Someone] vandalized my house last night.
15. His neighbor's noisy parties often irritate Jeff